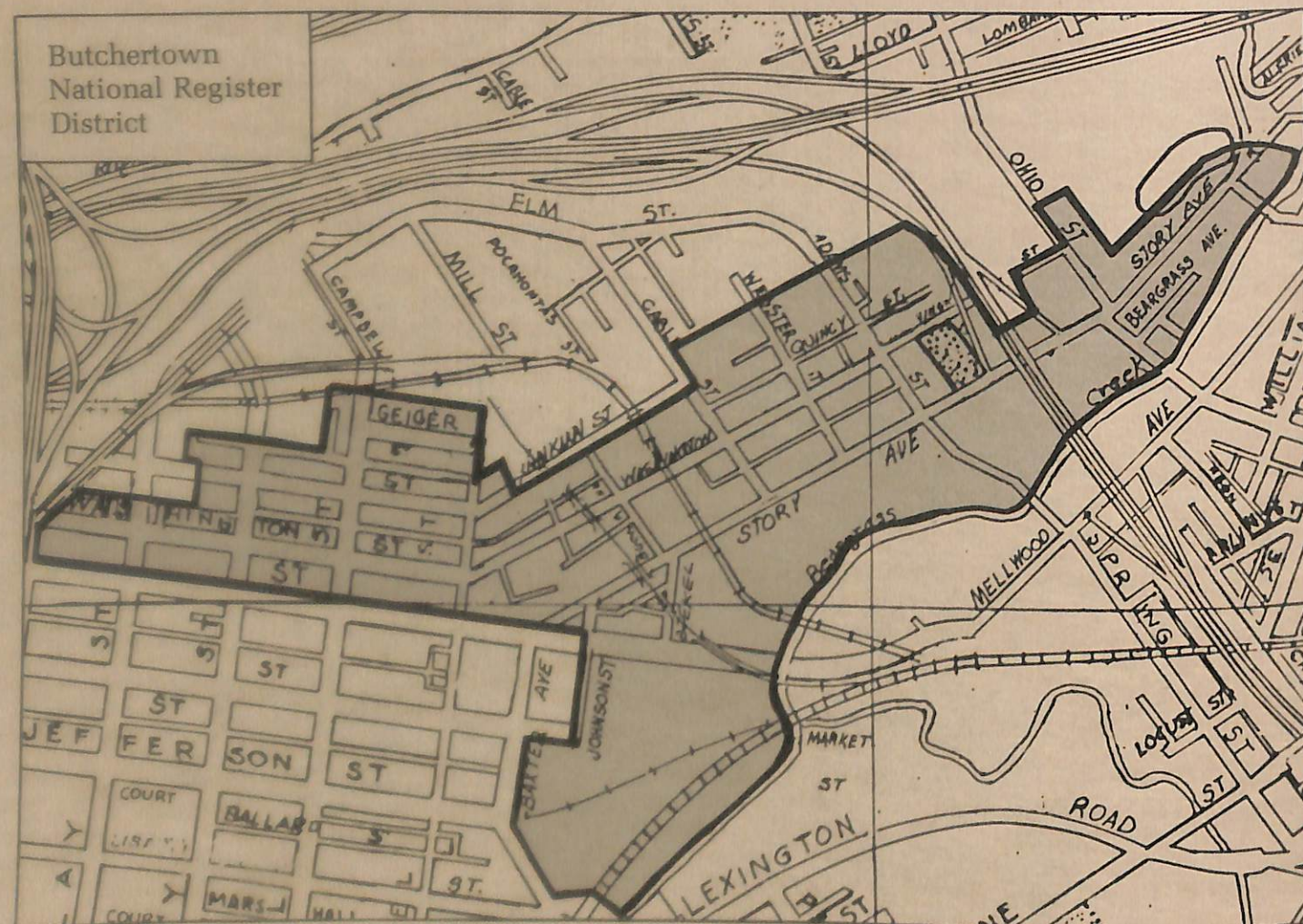




BUTCHERTOWN

Named for its butchering and pork-packing business, Butchertown contains some of Louisville's oldest building stock. One of its many characteristics is its diversity of land use. Residential, commercial, and industrial buildings of historic and architectural significance combine to create a cohesive mid-to-late nineteenth century urban ambience.

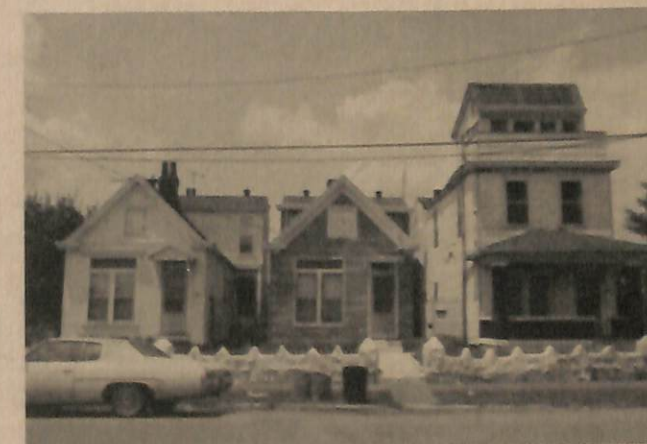
Residences of both frame and brick construction date back to the 1850s, with the majority surviving from the 1880s. Some late Federal-Style residences of predominantly brick construction are located in Butchertown. Their style is rare city-wide and they are particularly significant due to their scarcity. Phoenix Hill is the only other local neighborhood where Federal-Style residences are located.

More common in Butchertown and city-wide, are the Italianate residences. Built as single-family, many have been converted over the years to multi-family. The two-story Italianate is a good candidate for either. Since there is commonly a side, recessed, two-story porch with stair, conversion is not difficult to achieve within the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. These are also good candidates for the owner-occupied duplex investment tax credit situation.

The shotgun residence is also typical in Butchertown, with Italianate, Eastlake, and vernacular styles. Although the shotgun plan may appear to be an impossible plan within which to design a livable interior, it is in fact one of the most versatile. The Department of the Interior has shown in many instances that they can be flexible regarding the sensitive alteration of traffic flow in the shotgun—a primary design concern. Equally as important, the shotgun is a perfect size house for the urban resident. It is large enough (up to three bedrooms in some cases) for a small family or a couple, yet small enough that the occupant can enjoy quality renovation on an affordable scale.

Single-family shotguns generally rent easily and should sell quickly at the end of the five-year holding period required to avoid recapture of the investment tax credit, perhaps more quickly than a duplex.

Besides the residential building stock in Butchertown, the district also contains an abundance of corner commercial, large commercial, and industrial buildings which contribute to the architectural and historical significance of the district. A modest, 1890 brick warehouse, for example, would most likely qualify for the investment tax credit on its historical contributions to Butchertown as part of the area's pork-packing business.



From left to right: an intact shotgun, typical of Butchertown housing; a nearly identical shotgun with insul-brick which would have to be removed for a tax-act project; and an insensitive third-floor addition to a house that would be certifiable if the siding were removed along with the addition.



Representative of a typical cluster of buildings on Story Avenue, these buildings are all intact with the exception of the shuttered windows on the center building. Using colonial features on Victorian buildings is discouraged.